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TELEGRAM

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 ORC-01 /135 W

----- 001611

P R 021000Z SEP 74
 FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6318
 INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE
 AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES PRIORITY
 AMCONSUL LUANDA
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY MBABANE
 AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
 AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
 AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
 AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
 AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
 USIIN NEW YORK 600

UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 2994

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

F.F. 11602: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PDEV, MZ

SUBJ: FRELIMO PRESIDENT HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

1. PRELIMO PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL HELD PRESS CONFERENCE AT
 FRELIMO HQ SEPT. 2. HE ANNOUNCED RESUMPTION OF FRELIMO-
 PORTUGUESE DISCUSSIONS IN LUSAKA SEPT. 5, REFERRING TO THEM
 AS FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS RATHER THAN TALKS. MAJOR PURPOSE OF
NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE TO TRANSFER POWER TO MOZAMBIKAN PEOPLE
AND SET DATE FOR INDEPENDENCE. MACHEL SAID
 HE IS CONFIDENT NEGOTIATIONS WILL SUCCEED. HE EMPHASIZED
 THEME OF NATION-BUILDING, NOTING THAT MOZAMBIKAN PEOPLE

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ARE NOW READY TO REBUILD NATION OVER RUINS OF PREVIOUS ONE. HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT FRELIMO DELEGATION IS GOING TO LUSAKA WITH OPEN MIND.

2. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, MACHEL SAID THERE IS NOT YET AGREED UPON DATE FOR INDEPENDENCE. THIS IS WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DECIDE IN LUSAKA. HE SIDE-STEPPED QUESTIONS AS TO WHETHER THERE IS OR SOON WILL BE CEASE-FIRE IN MOZAMBIQUE. WHEN ASKED IF INITIATION OF FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS MEANS THAT PORTUGAL HAS ACCEPTED FRELIMO'S THREE DEMANDS, MACHEL WAFFLED SLIGHTLY BUT SAID HE WOULD NOT GO TO LUSAKA UNLESS HE HAD REASON TO BELIEVE THEY HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED.

3. COMMENT: MACHEL REPORTEDLY EXHIBITED CONFIDENCE AT PRESS CONFERENCE. THERE IS BELIEF IN TANZANIA PRESS CIRCLES THAT LUSAKA NEGOTIATING SESSION IS JUST ICING ON THE CAKE, WITH MOST MAJOR ISSUES ALREADY HAVING BEEN AGREED UPON BY PORTUGAL AND FRELIMO.
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